



*Monday
Aug. 21, 1989*

SHARPE JAMES
MAYOR
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY
07102

STATEMENT FROM MAYOR SHARPE JAMES

RE: STATE REMOVAL OF DEBRIS FROM UNDER RT. 78

It is commendable that New Jersey has received federal emergency assistance to repair this vital highway that is a major part of our city's and this region's transportation system.

At the same time, I appeal to Gov. Thomas Kean and the State Department of Environmental Protection to adhere to the established policies adopted under Essex County's Solid Waste Management Plan by allowing the local transfer stations to remove the debris. This would afford Newark the \$4 per ton it is due, and enable the refuse to be removed in a timely manner, considering that two weeks have already elapsed since the Route 78 fire.

It is our understanding that vendors who already bid on the removal of the debris estimate that there is between 250,000 and 400,000 tons at the site. This could mean a considerable amount to the City of Newark, which in addition to having to fight the fire, endured considerable hardship during the rerouting of traffic from the damaged roadway through our city.

The state has already dragged its feet on the removal of the materials which caused the fire. What we are simply

asking is that Newark get what it is due and that the debris be removed from the Hub site before we experience another incident.